

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-7 and 14-21. A copy of all pending claims and a status of the claims is provided below.

1-7 (cancel)

8. (original) A multiple stage pump, comprising:

at least two pumps; and

at least two valve means for regulating fluid from the at least two pumps, respectively, the at least two valve means being upstream from the at least two pumps in a respectively same line as the at least two pumps.

9. (original) The multiple stage pump of claim 8, further comprising a merged line upstream from the at least two valve means.

10. (original) The multiple stage pump of claim 9, wherein the at least two valve means are control valves, flow valves or on/off valves.

11. (original) The multiple stage pump of claim 9, wherein the at least two valve means are pressure regulated valves.

12. (original) The multiple stage pump of claim 9, wherein the at least two valve means are pressure relief valves.

13. (original) The multiple stage pump of claim 9, wherein the at least two valve means are each a set of valves.

14.-21. (cancel)